



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Milwaukee County
SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5, 2008

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**Walker Announces June Passenger Count is an All-Time One-Month High
for General Mitchell International Airport;**
Record 1st and 2nd Quarters; 15th Straight Month of Passenger Growth

MILWAUKEE, WI – Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker announced today that the number of passengers using General Mitchell International Airport in June 2008 set an all-time one-month record. The month's total of 789,513 passengers was an increase of 14.09 percent over last June's 691,994 passengers. The total eclipses the previous high month, March 2008 at 745,893 passengers. The number of passengers for the first half of 2008 also is a record at 4,137,874, a 9.47 percent increase over 2007's 3,779,952 passengers for the same period.

Walker said that June was the 15th straight month of record passenger numbers at Mitchell International. "June is a traditionally strong air travel month," said Walker. "As soon as school is out, vacationers take to the skies. The "snowbirds" come back to enjoy Wisconsin's beautiful summers, many using Mitchell as the gateway to their destination. With the flights added by AirTran, there were 16 percent more airline seats into and out of Mitchell this June at very competitive fares."

Airport Director Barry Bateman said, "Come September, Mitchell and other airports nationwide will see the effects of rising fuel costs in fewer nonstop flights to fewer cities. Right now, there still are some great bargain nonstop round-trip fares out of Milwaukee for the fall. It's a good time to buy to take advantage of these advance-purchase deals." Bateman also noted that, "Apple Vacations and Funjet Vacations have already started selling tickets out of Mitchell for their nonstop charter flights to Cancun, Cozumel, Ixtapa, Jamaica, Puerto Vallarta and Punta Cana for the winter/spring travel season. After last winter's snowfall, travelers may want to plan early for this winter's warm, sunny getaway trip."

Mitchell ranks among the top 10 percent of U.S. cities in number of destinations served nonstop. Average airfares at Mitchell are lower than those at 46 other U.S. airports, according to U.S. Department of Transportation statistics.

General Mitchell International Airport is owned by Milwaukee County and operated by the Department of Transportation & Public Works, Airport Division, under the policy direction of the Milwaukee County Executive and the County Board of Supervisors. The airport is entirely funded by user fees; no property tax dollars are used for the airport's capital improvements or for its day-to-day operation. For more information on Mitchell International, visit www.mitchellairport.com.

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